



MINUTES OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2008 AT THE
IMPERIAL HOTEL, LONDON.

Present:	Heather Dhondy	(Chairman)
	Max Bavin	(EBU Chief TD)
	Sally Bugden	(EBU Chairman)
	David Burn	
	Simon Cochemé	(Vice-Chairman)
	Steve Eginton	
	Gerard Faulkner	(EBU Vice-President)
	Paul Hackett	
	David Muller	
	Malcolm Oliver	(Board Member)
	Andrew Petrie	(EBU Vice-Chairman)
	Peter Stocken	(Board Member)
	Tom Townsend	
	Sandra Claridge	(Secretary)

1 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2008/9

Heather Dhondy was proposed by David Burn and seconded by Sally Bugden. There being no other nominations Heather was duly elected.

Heather welcomed Simon Cochemé, Tom Townsend and David Burn, the newly elected members of the Committee. She thanked Steve Eginton for his contribution as Chairman, and Gerard Faulkner and Sandra Landy for their hard work over the last few years. Sally Bugden also thanked them on behalf of the Board.

2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2008/9

Simon Cochemé was proposed by Sally Bugden and seconded by Andrew Petrie. There being no other nominations Simon was duly elected. He congratulated all the England players and the Selection Committee for the success of all the teams in Beijing.

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15TH JULY 2008

Accuracy

The last paragraph of item 7 to be removed, and a note added in the list of attendees to reflect that David Harris left before the conclusion of the meeting.

It was agreed that in addition to the second sentence in item 8 in relation to carry-over scores, the following sentence should be added. "All members of a team must play a minimum of 200 boards over the three weekends, and all pairs must play against all the teams in their division in one of the two matches played over the three weekends."

Matters Arising

Terms of Reference for National Coach

The Chairman reported that she and Steve Eginton had made a start on the Terms of Reference, and their recommendations would be discussed alongside Peter Stocken's paper on selection.

Data Protection issues

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Review of Player, NPC and Coach guidelines

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Committee responsibilities

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

It was noted that a confidential matter had not been concluded satisfactorily. Further comments would be sought.

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15TH AUGUST 2008

Accuracy

The date in the first sentence of page 3 was amended to read "Tuesday 18th November 2008".

4.2 Matters Arising

4.2.1 Category databases

The Secretary reported that she had made progress with a database of players in the "Open" category. The Chairman and Paul Hackett offered to assist with the Women's and Seniors categories.

5 PAPER BY PETER STOCKEN & 5-YEAR BUDGET

Opening the discussion the Chairman thanked Peter and Tom Townsend for their submissions, which contained a number of interesting ideas. Peter said that the Board supported the basic principles of his paper, but the implementation and budgeting had not been determined. He also confirmed that the content was subject to committee discussion and approval and that a response covering all aspects should be prepared. Gerard Faulkner said that the level of funding was of paramount importance, and must be addressed as a priority.

Peter outlined the main thrust of the paper as being a vision of a squad system with a coach/manager in charge to provide a single passage of training for European and World events.

The Chairman questioned the suggestion in the paper that participation in international friendly events should be abandoned to achieve cost savings. There was general agreement between the elected members of the Committee that such events were extremely valuable in terms of gaining experience and playing against foreign systems, which benefitted both existing and potential international players. Once a squad was formed, the individual needs of squad members should be assessed by the National Coach, who should be in a position to decide what events or activities should be supported.

In response Peter said that it was up to the Committee to argue the case for peripheral events, which must be budgeted for. In addition applications could be sought from sponsors to provide teams of sufficient calibre.

A number of initiatives by other European NBOs were discussed, which were noted to have had varying degrees of success.

It was agreed that a Working Party would be set up comprising Simon Cocheme, Paul Hackett and Tom Townsend, in close liaison with Max Bavin, to put together models for the Board, prior to their meeting on 5th March. Their remit would include Open, Women's and Seniors categories.

6 PREMIER LEAGUE

The provisional results of the 2008 League were noted and are contained in Appendix A. The Conditions of Contest for the 2008 Premier League, and the results, are the subject of an enquiry. The Conditions of Contest for 2009 would be determined in light of the results of such enquiry.

The dates for the 2009 League were agreed, as follows:

18th – 20th September

2nd – 4th October

30th October – 1st November

Default date: 13th – 15th November

It was agreed as policy that Yom Kippur would be avoided when dates were fixed, if reasonably possible.

Correspondence from Chris Dixon was discussed, and the Chairman agreed to thank him for his helpful suggestions.

Whilst general conditions for selection and the 2009 Premier League are under review, there was general agreement that from 2009 the Premier League would determine selection for the Camrose series, and would be one of the bases for selection for the Champions Cup (where England qualifies as of right from the European Championships), and the squad from which a European team would be selected. Performance in other events would also be taken into consideration.

It was noted that the EBU's Honorary Counsel insisted that disclosure of any financial arrangements in relation to players in the League, was a requirement. The wording of the questionnaire supplied to all entrants would be reviewed.

It was agreed that once the result of the Enquiry was known, entries would be invited for 2009. The entry fee would be determined by Max Bavin once the accounts of the 2008 League had been finalized, but would be at a level where the League would continue to be self-financing. The possibility of housing the two divisions in different venues would be explored. It was however agreed that venues would be investigated for the three weekends with a view to holding two in the South of England, and one in the North.

7 COMMITTEE'S CODE OF CONDUCT

A paper by Sally Bugden on a suggested Code of Conduct for the Committee was agreed, subject to a minor redraft which would be undertaken by Simon Cocheme.

In principle it was agreed that declarations of interest must be announced, and minuted. A Committee member declaring an interest may, however, be present for discussion of format, but with no voting entitlement. Any member of the Committee with a personal interest in selection is required to leave the room until selection of that player/players are completed.

8 OPEN SERIES

8.1 Beijing results

The team and NPC was congratulated on its success, and the NPC thanked for his report. The results are contained in Appendix A.

8.2 Selection of teams, reserves and NPCs for the 2009 Camrose Trophy

Tom Townsend, Paul Hackett and Heather Dhondy declared an interest and absented themselves, as appropriate, during the following selections:

9th – 11th January: Cardiff

ENGLAND

David Gold & Tom Townsend
David Bakhshi & Tony Forrester
Peter Crouch & Glyn Liggins
Reserves: Michelle Brunner & John Holland
NPC: David Price

ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION

Peter Czerniewski & Ian Panto
Jeremy Dhondy & Alan Kay
Michael Byrne & Mike Bell
Reserves: Frances Hinden & Jeffery Allerton
NPC: Chris Dixon

6th – 8th March: Oxford

ENGLAND

David Gold & Tom Townsend
Espen Erichsen & Norman Selway
Michelle Brunner & John Holland
Reserves: David Bakhshi & Tony Forrester
NPC: David Price

ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION

Alexander Allfrey & Andrew Robson
Andy Bowles & John Howard
Jon Cooke & Martin Garvey
Reserves: Mike Perkins & Ian Reissman
NPC: Chris Dixon
Asst NPC: Jerry Cope

The Chairman stressed that all selections were confidential, until such time as the Secretary informed the Committee that those selected had been informed.

9 WOMEN'S SERIES

9.1 Beijing results

The team and NPC was congratulated on its success, and the NPC thanked for his report. The results are contained in Appendix A.

9.2 Women's Trials

The Secretary reported that the closing date for entries had been extended to 17th November. The following eight pairs had applied, and were accepted, as follows:

Susan Stockdale/Fiona Brown
Jill Feldman/Heather Dhondy
Audrey Hartley/Stephanie Rohan
Helen Erichsen/Nevena Senior
Catherine Seale/Catherine Jagger
Kath Nelson/Tracy Capal
Mandie Campbell/Sonia Griffiths (L&PL Masters)
Laura Perryman/Carrie Oliver

Heather Dhondy declared an interest.

Correspondence from two pairs who pointed out that the original announcement for the trial had indicated that it was purely for selection for the Lady Milne Trophy, and then amended to announce the formation of a Women's squad, was noted.

Decisions were taken as follows:

- The Trial would be played on one weekend only, i.e. 6th & 7th December at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club, London.
- Eight pairs would play 7 x 14-board matches, with screens.
- Max Bavin would produce a timetable.
- The entry fee would be reduced to £100 per pair.
- There would be a BBO presentation of two tables.
- The leading pair would be guaranteed selection for the Lady Milne Trophy. Two further pairs, reserves and the NPC would be selected at the next meeting.
- Formation of a women's squad would await the Working Party's recommendations.

10 SENIORS SERIES

10.1 Beijing results

The team and NPC was congratulated on its success, and the NPC thanked for his report, and for handling a difficult situation with great skill. The results are contained in Appendix A.

10.2 Seniors Trials

The Secretary reported that three teams had applied for the Trials, captained by Paul Hackett, Jeffrey Alper and Richard Palmer. Paul Hackett said that it was disappointing to have so few entries, but that representation in Seniors events was expensive, given that EBU funding was restricted to entry fee and uniform. Sally Bugden confirmed that at its meeting on 23rd October, the Board had confirmed that there would be no funding available for a Seniors NPC.

Paul Hackett declared an interest.

Decisions were taken as follows:

- The Trial would be played over the weekend of 24th/25th January at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club, London.
- Every effort would be made to attract a fourth team.
- The entry fee would be £200 per team.

10.3 World Team Championships

It was noted that England are reserves for the 39th World Team Championships in Sao Paulo from 29th August – 12th September.

Paul Hackett declared an interest and absented himself.

The following team was selected:

Ross Harper & Gunnar Hallberg
David Price & Colin Simpson

Paul Hackett & Tony Waterlow
Reserves: Peter Czerniewski & Ian Panto

It was confirmed that there would be no funding for the team.

11 U28 SERIES

11.1 Beijing results

The team and NPC was congratulated on its success, and the NPC thanked for his report. The results are included in Appendix A.

Max Bavin reported that the team had travelled to Beijing a day early to take advantage of the free flights offered, and had been charged for a night's accommodation, which had not been reimbursed. The Chairman of the Union had written to José Damiani on the subject, and expressed disappointment at the poor level of publicity for the event.

Max also reported that the rapport between all the England teams had been excellent, and the support given by the Open, Women's and Seniors teams to the youth teams had been much appreciated.

12 PUBLICITY & PROMOTION OF NATIONAL TEAMS

Sally Bugden said that it was important to build on the success of our teams in Beijing, and that a meeting had been held to discuss how to progress the matter. Various initiatives had been suggested including visits to clubs by the Beijing players, a supporters club, special events etc. Steve Eginton agreed to produce ideas by the first week of December.

13 YOUTH COMMITTEE

David Muller was appointed as the Selection Committee representative on the Youth Committee for the coming year.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be confirmed.

15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 Captain's allowance for Home Internationals

The Chairman of the Union agreed to address the matter.

15.2 Committee's Terms of Reference

The Chairman agreed to make necessary amendments to the Committee's terms of reference, including the removal of responsibility for junior matters, for approval by the Board.

15.3 *Travel arrangements for international events*

It was agreed that it would be at the discretion of players to travel by any means, if at their own expense, provided they arrived and left on prescribed dates.

15.4 *Selection Calendar*

The Vice-Chairman noted that the Committee's calendar was inconsistent with the calendar on the EBU website. The Secretary agreed to address the matter.

ACTION LIST

Minute	Action	Responsibility
1	Letter to Sandra Landy	Secretary
3.2.1	Terms of Reference for National Coach	Chairman & S Eginton
3.2.2	Data Protection issue	David Harris
3.2.3	Review of guidelines	David Harris
3.2.5	Correspondence	Secretary
3.2.6	Player databases	Secretary, Chairman, Paul Hackett
5	Working Party recommendations	Vice-Chairman, Paul Hackett, Tom Townsend
6	Venues for Premier League 2009	Secretary
	Letter to C Dixon	Chairman
	Announcement of 2009 event	Secretary & Chairman
	Conditions of Contest for 2009 event	Secretary & Max Bavin
	Questionnaire for 2009 event	Secretary & David Harris
7	Code of Conduct	Vice-Chairman
8.1	Letter to Phil King	Secretary
8.2	Announcement of selections	Secretary
9.1	Letter to Martin Jones	Secretary
9.2	Timetable	Max Bavin
	Conditions of Contest	Secretary & Max Bavin
10.1	Letter to Peter Czerniewski	Secretary
10.2	Arrangements for Trial	Max Bavin
10.3	Announcement of selections	Secretary
11.1	Letter to David Greenwood	Secretary
12	Publicity & promotion recommendations	Steve Eginton
15.1	Home Captain's allowance	Sally Bugden
15.2	Terms of Reference	Chairman
15.4	Calendar	Secretary

APPENDIX A

Mind Sports Games - Beijing

OPEN TEAM - Silver medallists

Nick Sandqvist & Artur Malinowski
Jason & Justin Hackett
David Gold & Tom Townsend
NPC: Phil King
Coach: Simon Cope

Position in qualifying Group D	2nd
1 st Knock-out stage	Defeated Bulgaria 143-98
Quarter-final	Defeated Romania 267-146
Semi-final	Defeated Germany 277-143
Final	Lost to Italy 170 - 200

WOMEN'S TEAM - Gold medallists

Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
Sally Brock & Nicola Smith
Catherine Draper & Anne Rosen
NPC: Martin Jones
Coach: Sandra Penfold

Position in qualifying Group E	1 st
1 st Knock-out stage	Defeated Singapore 175-122
Quarter-final	Defeated France 180-143
Semi-final	Defeated Turkey 304-197
Final	Defeated China 223-222

SENIORS' TEAM

Chris Dixon & Victor Silverstone
David Price & Colin Simpson
Ross Harper & Peter Czerniewski
Playing captain: Peter Czerniewski

Position in qualifying Group K	6th
1 st Knock-out stage	Defeated Poland 107-57
Quarter-final	Lost to Japan 95-199

U28 TEAM

Fiona Brown & Susan Stockdale
 Ben Green & Duncan Happer
 Oliver Burgess & Andrew Woodcock
 NPC: David Greenwood
 Coach: Diane Greenwood

Position in qualifying	6th
1 st Knock-out stage	Lost to France 58-108

2008 PREMIER LEAGUE

Team	1 st w/e	2 nd w/e	Total	Position
Hackett	138	139	277	1
Irens	110	155	265	2
Hassett	90	160	250	3
Allfrey	105	139	244	4
Howard	108	126	234	5
Muller	91	142	233	6
Small	87	143	230	7
Dhondy	89	136	225	8
Gillis	70	154	224	9
De Botton	88	135	223	10
Rosen	94	124	218	11
Silverstone	61	154	215	12
Byrne	76	130	206	13
Hasenson	83	114	197	14
Senior	51	113	164	15
Cooper	78	78	156	16

FINAL RESULTS

DIVISION 1

Team	Total
Nick Irens, Espen Erichsen, Tom Townsend, David Gold, Norman Selway	239
Paul Hackett, John Holland, Tony Waterlow, Michelle Brunner	229
John Hassett, Bill Hirst, Ian Panto, Peter Czerniewski, Howard Melbourne	215
John Howard, Andy Bowles, Mike Perkins, Ian Reissmann, Brian Callaghan, Michael Ranis	208
Alexander Allfrey, Andrew Robson, Tony Forrester, David Bakhshi, Glyn Liggins, Peter Crouch	206
Jeremy Dhondy, Alan Kay, Heather Dhondy, Rob Cliffe	206
Cameron Small, Graham Osborne, Frances Hinden, Jeffery Allerton, Jon Cooke, Martin Garvey	203
David Muller, Malcolm Pryor, Richard Butland, John Atthey	159

DIVISION 2

Team	Total
Neil Rosen, Martin Jones, David Price, Colin Simpson	247
Michael Byrne, Ben Paske, Tom Paske, Ed Jones, Mike Bell, Simon Cope	241
Janet de Botton, David Burn Jason & Justin Hackett, Artur Malinowski, Nick Sandqvist	223
Victor Silverstone, Chris Dixon, Ben Green, Duncan Happer	214
Chris Cooper, Michael Clark, Luke Porter, Bryony Youngs, Dave Cropper	192
Peter Hasenson, Jerry Harouni, Richard Bowdery, Nick Boss, Richard Johnson, David Sherman	192
Brian Senior, Sandra Penfold, Geoffrey Wolfarth, Alan Mould, Gary Hyett	183
Simon Gillis, Gunnar Hallberg, Andrew McIntosh, Robert Sheehan, Phil King, Les Steel	182